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Churches of Christ Salute You with a Herald of Truth

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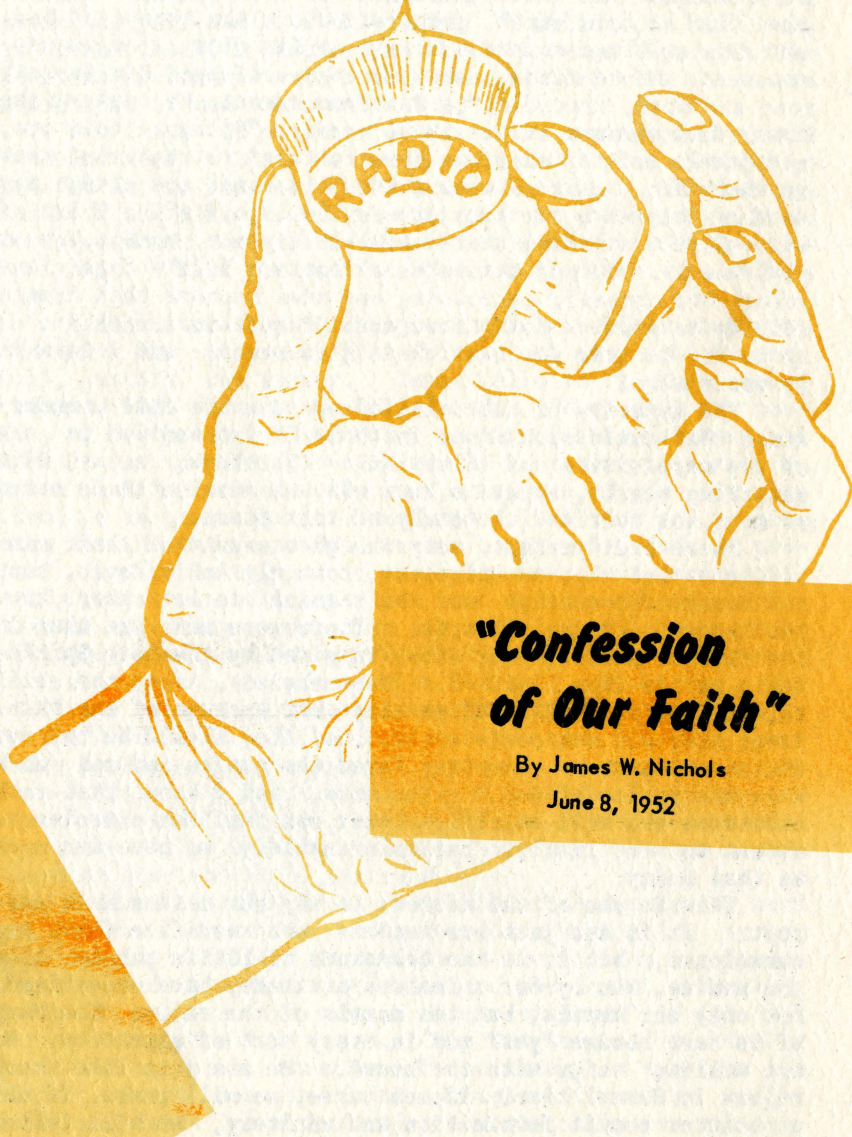
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The Herald of Truth

NETWORK



STATIONS



"Confession of Our Faith"

By James W. Nichols

June 8, 1952

"Confession of Our Faith"

By James W. Nichols - - June 8, 1952

One of the greatest promises that man has ever received is that which was spoken by Jesus in Matthew the tenth chapter, thirty-second verse: "Whosoever shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." By faith I can behold all the billions who have lived and who will ever live on this earth, gathered before the throne of God, with Christ standing there in all of His glory, judging every man. As he finds a man who has confessed Him in both word and deed, according to His commandment, He turns to the Father and perhaps utters these words: "Father, this one, my brother and thy son, has been faithful to the trust that was left him. His robe is white, his hands are clean; may we bless him with the joys of everlasting life?" Think of it. Christ standing there before every man, woman, boy or girl who has walked the paths of earth, before angels and before God Himself, confessing our name because that we were willing to confess His before men. Oh, it is the desire of my heart to some day hear those glad words, and I know it is yours also.

The majority of all religious people are able to understand that confession of our faith in Christ and God is one of the necessities of salvation. Therefore, as we, with searching hearts, study to know what we must do to be saved we must not overlook the study of this phase.

There are, perhaps, many who give assent of their mind to Christ but who, as spineless, cowardly individuals, cannot muster the courage nor the stamina to let others know the thoughts of their hearts. There were men like that in the time of Christ, for John, inspired by the Holy Spirit, tells us in John 12:42-43, "Nevertheless, among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." You know, and I know that such creatures who will sacrifice their own faith and conscience, amount to very little, but unfortunately we have men such as that today.

This is one of the answers to why our nation is so corrupt. It is not just our leaders who sacrifice faith and conscience, but it is the thousands of little people like you and me, who by our spineless attitude, have undermined, not only our morals, but the morals of the nation. Too many of us have become "yes" men in every sort of situation. We are willing to go with the crowd. We are just like those rulers in Jesus' time. If men curse, we will curse. If our associates commit fornication and adultery, we will follow

in their footsteps. If our so-called friends ridicule those who have the courage to stand for the right, we will echo their sneer. Others drink and dance, so we will drink and dance.

We have no right as citizens of this nation, to censure the spineless attitude of our politicians when we are just as spineless in our stand for righteousness. Too many of us have loved the praise of men more than the praise of God. And remember that you are not going to be saved just because you may have at some time in a vast audience or seated by your radio, weekly said, "I believe." Paul said in Romans the 10th chapter and the 10th verse "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Our faith is useless unless it is expressed by both word and deed. There is no place in God's plan of salvation for us to hide our faith under a bushel. The saving faith of the Bible is a faith that must be confessed in both word and deed, and it was for that reason that the Apostle Paul said, "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

I don't know how thinking men, who are Bible students, can think for one moment that faith alone ever did, or ever will, justify the sinner. James tells us in the second chapter, 14th through the 20th verses, "What doth it profit, my brethren, if a man say he hath faith, but have not works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Go in peace, be ye warmed and filled; and yet ye give them not the things needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it have not works, is dead in itself. Yea, a man will say, Thou hast faith and I have works: Show me thy faith apart from thy works, and I by my works will show thee my faith. Thou believest that God is one; thou doest well: the demons also believe, and shudder. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith apart from works is barren? James is just saying that you must proclaim your faith by word of mouth and yes, by deed, or else it is useless---dead. My heart bleeds when I think of the men and women who will be lost because in some way they convinced themselves that all that was necessary was for them to believe or give assent of the mind.

Remember, saving faith is a faith of confession in word and action. No matter how great faith within is, or how good morally our lives be, unless we are willing to express vocally and in action the faith of the heart, then that faith is useless and vain. James continued in the 21st verse through the 26th verse, "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was ful-

Alabama, Anniston	WHMA	1450	1:00 p.m.	Shreveport	KRMD	1340	1:00 p.m.	Philadelphia	WFIL	560	2:00 p.m.
Auburn	WAUD	1230	1:00 p.m.	Maine, Bangor	WABI	910	1:30 p.m.	Pittsburg	WCAE	1250	3:00 p.m.
Birmingham	WSGN	610	10:30 p.m.	Portland	WPOR	1450	9:00 a.m.	Wilkes Barre	WILK	970	8:00 p.m.
Florence	WJOI	1340	9:30 a.m.	Maryland, Baltimore	WFBR	1300	3:00 p.m.	R. Island, Providence	WPJB	1420	1:00 p.m.
Gadsden	WGAD	1350	1:00 p.m.	Cumberland	WDYK	1230	8:00 a.m.	S. Carolina, Florence	WJMX	970	10:30 a.m.
Huntsville	WHBS	1490	1:00 p.m.	Mass., Lawrence	WLAW	680	1:00 p.m.	S. Dakota, Aberdeen	KSDN	930	10:30 a.m.
Mobile	WABB	1480	6:30 a.m.	Springfield	WSPR	1270	5:00 p.m.	Jackson	WTJS	1390	1:00 p.m.
Montgomery	WAPX	1600	1:00 p.m.	Worcester	WAAB	1440	3:00 p.m.	Tenn., Chattanooga	WDEF	1370	1:00 p.m.
Selma	WGWC	1340	check sta.	Michigan, Battle Creek	WELL	1400	1:00 p.m.	Johnson City	WJHL	910	11:30 p.m.
Tuscaloosa	WJRD	1150	9:30 p.m.	Bay City	WBCM	1440	1:00 p.m.	Knoxville	WBIR	1240	1:30 p.m.
Arizona, Phoenix	KOY	550	7:00 a.m.	Detroit	WXYZ	1270	1:00 p.m.	Memphis	WMP	680	9:00 p.m.
Tucson	KCNA	1340	3:00 p.m.	Flint	WFDE	910	10:00 p.m.	Morristown	WCRK	1450	check sta.
Arkansas, Eldorado	KSDM	1290	1:00 p.m.	Lansing	WILS	1320	1:00 p.m.	Nashville	WSIX	980	4:00 p.m.
Ft. Smith	KFSA	950	1:00 p.m.	Ludington	WKLA	1450	1:00 p.m.	Texas, Abilene	KRBC	1470	1:00 p.m.
Hot Springs	KTHS	1090	1:00 p.m.	Muskegon	WKBZ	850	2:00 p.m.	Amarillo	KFDA	1440	1:30 p.m.
Little Rock	KGHI	1250	1:00 p.m.	Minn., Minn.-St. Paul	WTCN	1280	7:30 a.m.	Austin	KNOW	1490	2:00 p.m.
Springdale	KBRS	1340	6:00 p.m.	Miss., Aberdeen	WNPA	1240	3:00 p.m.	Beaumont	KFDM	560	1:00 p.m.
Calif., Bakersfield	KPMC	1560	10:00 a.m.	Centerville	WGCL	1580	8:00 a.m.	Big Spring	KBST	1490	1:00 p.m.
Eureka	KIEM	1480	7:15 a.m.	Columbus	WCBI	1340	6:00 p.m.	Brownfield	KTFY	1050	4:30 p.m.
Fresno	KARM	1430	3:30 p.m.	Jackson	WSLI	930	2:00 p.m.	Brownsville	KVAL	1490	1:00 p.m.
Los Angeles	KECA	790	3:30 p.m.	Laurel	WLAV	1490	1:00 p.m.	Corpus Christi	KEYS	1440	9:00 a.m.
San Francisco	KGO	810	3:30 p.m.	Missouri, Kansas City	KCMO	810	12:30 p.m.	El Paso	KEPO	690	3:00 p.m.
San Luis Obispo	KATY	1340	3:30 p.m.	Rolla	KTTR	1490	8:45 a.m.	Ft. Worth	WBAP	570	1:00 p.m.
Colorado, Craig	KRAI	1230	5:30 p.m.	St. Louis	KXOK	630	9:15 p.m.	Graham	KSWA	1330	4:30 p.m.
Denver	KVOD	630	5:00 p.m.	Springfield	KWTO	560	1:00 p.m.	Houston	KXYZ	1320	8:00 a.m.
Conn., Bridgeport	WNAB	1450	2:00 p.m.	Montana, Butte	KOPR	580	11:00 p.m.	Longview	KFRO	1370	1:00 p.m.
Hartford	WTHT	1230	2:30 p.m.	Great Falls	KMON	560	7:30 a.m.	Lubbock	KFYO	1340	4:00 p.m.
Delaware, Wilmington	WILM	1450	2:00 p.m.	Nebraska, Lincoln	KFOR	1240	10:30 a.m.	Midland	KCRS	550	1:30 p.m.
Florida, Gainesville	WGGG	1230	1:00 p.m.	Omaha	KOIL	1290	5:30 p.m.	Paris	KPLT	1490	9:00 p.m.
Jacksonville	WPDQ	600	8:30 a.m.	Ni Hamp., Manchester	WMUR	610	5:00 p.m.	San Angelo	KGKL	960	1:00 p.m.
Miami	WQAM	560	1:00 p.m.	N. Mexico, Albuquerque	KOAT	1450	3:00 p.m.	San Antonio	KMAC	630	9:00 p.m.
Penacola	WEAR	1230	11:30 p.m.	Clovis	KCLV	1240	1:00 p.m.	Texarkana	KCMC	1230	1:00 p.m.
Tallahassee	WTNT	1450	5:00 p.m.	Los Alamos	KRSN	1490	3:00 p.m.	Wichita Falls	KFDX	990	2:00 p.m.
Tampa, St. Pete	WSUN	620	1:00 p.m.	Santa Fe	KTRC	1400	3:00 p.m.	Utah, Provo	KCSU	1490	3:00 p.m.
Georgia, Augusta	WGAC	580	2:00 p.m.	New York, Albany	WXXW	850	2:00 p.m.	Salt Lake City	KUTA	570	7:30 a.m.
Brunswick	WGIC	1440	1:00 p.m.	New York	WJZ	770	12:30 p.m.	Vermont, Burlington	WJOY	1230	1:00 p.m.
Columbus	WGBA	1460	7:30 a.m.	Olean	WHOL	1450	1:00 p.m.	Montpelier-Barre	WSKI	1240	1:00 p.m.
Macon	WBML	1240	1:00 p.m.	Rochester	WARC	950	3:00 p.m.	Virginia, Charlottesville	WINA	1280	9:15 a.m.
Rome	WLAQ	670	1:00 p.m.	Saranac Lake	WEAV	960	2:00 p.m.	Fredericksburg	WFV A	1230	check sta.
Savannah	WDAR	1400	1:00 p.m.	Syracuse	WAGE	620	12:00 n.	Norfolk	WGH	1310	5:00 p.m.
Valdosta	WGAF	910	1:30 p.m.	N. Carolina, Asheville	WLDS	1380	1:00 p.m.	Richmond	WRNL	910	1:30 p.m.
Idaho, Boise	KGEM	1140	3:00 p.m.	Charlotte	WAYS	610	1:00 p.m.	Washington, Aberdeen	KBKW	1450	10:00 p.m.
Pocatello	KEOI	1440	9:30 a.m.	Durham	WTIK	1310	2:00 p.m.	Pasco	WPKW	1340	3:30 p.m.
Illinois, Chicago	WENR-WLS	890	2:30 p.m.	Fayetteville (Sat.)	WFLB	1490	1:00 p.m.	Seattle	KJR	950	3:30 p.m.
Quincy	WGEM	1440	8:00 a.m.	Salisbury	WSAT	1280	1:00 p.m.	Spokane	KGA	1510	3:30 p.m.
Indiana, Anderson	WHBU	1240	1:30 p.m.	Winston - Salem	WAIR	1340	1:30 p.m.	Washington, D. C.	WMAL	630	1:00 p.m.
Bloomington	WTTS	1370	1:00 p.m.	N. Dakota, Fargo	KFGO	790	7:00 a.m.	W. Virginia, Beckley	WWNR	620	1:30 p.m.
Evansville	WJPS	1330	1:30 p.m.	Ohio, Cleveland	WJW	850	1:00 p.m.	Parkersburg	WCOM	1230	Sat.
Ft. Wayne	WGL	1250	1:00 p.m.	Columbus	WCOL	1230	9:30 a.m.	Wheeling	WKWK	1400	1:00 p.m.
Iowa, Cedar Rapids	WMT	600	7:30 a.m.	Lima	WIMA	1150	9:00 a.m.	Wisconsin, LaCrosse	WKTY	580	4:00 p.m.
Des Moines	KSO	1460	1:00 p.m.	Youngstown	WBBW	1240	8:30 a.m.	Madison	WIBA	1320	8:00 p.m.
Sioux City	KSCJ	1360	10:30 p.m.	Oklahoma, Ada	KADA	1230	1:00 p.m.	Neenah	WNAM	1280	8:00 a.m.
Waterloo	KXEL	1540	5:30 p.m.	Enid	KCRC	1390	1:00 p.m.	Wyoming, Casper	KSPR	1470	9:15 p.m.
Kansas, Coffeyville	KGGF	690	2:00 p.m.	McAlester	KTMC	1400	1:00 p.m.	Cheyenne	KFBC	710	12:00 p.m.
Topeka	WREN	1250	1:00 p.m.	Muskogee	KBIX	1490	2:00 p.m.	Cody	KODI	1400	12:00 p.m.
Ken., Bowling Green	WKCT	930	1:00 p.m.	Oklahoma City	KTOK	1000	9:30 a.m.	Rawlins	KRAL	1240	12:00 p.m.
Harlan	WHLN	1230	3:00 p.m.	Tulsa	KRMG	740	2:00 p.m.	Riverton	KWRL	1450	12:00 p.m.
Louisville	WKLO	1080	1:00 p.m.	Oregon, Eugene	KUGN	590	1:00 p.m.	Torrington	KGOS	1490	12:00 p.m.
Newport	WNOP	740	2:00 p.m.	Klamath Falls	KFLW	1450	4:30 p.m.	Worland	KWOR	1490	12:00 p.m.
Louisiana, Baton Rouge	WLCS	910	1:00 p.m.	Medford	KMED	1440	7:30 a.m.	Canada, Trail, B. C.	CJAT	610	check sta.
Monroe	KMLB	1440	2:00 p.m.	Portland	KEX	1190	3:30 p.m.	Toronto, Ont.	CKEY	580	9:15 a.m.
New Orleans	WDSU	1280	1:00 p.m.	Penn., Johnstown	WCRO	1230	7:00 p.m.				

filled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also." It should be simple for us to see from these passages of scripture that one of the very vital things that God commands, in answer to the question, "What must I do to be saved?", is to confess Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in both word and deed.

It is my prayer that there may be those of you in the audience today who will have the courage, and yes, the love for Christ that you will say, "I am not ashamed of Him, and I am going to obey His will." I believe with all my heart that until millions of us, in this, our nation, have that faith and courage to stand for what we believe, we are not going to be able to cure our political corruption. This revival must not begin with somebody else, but it must begin with you.

Now, before we finish this lesson today, I want us to see one more phase of this command of confession. I don't believe that there is a man who can scripturally separate the different actions of conversion and base their salvation on any one of these acts. A man is foolish who thinks that he can take a watch apart and attribute the effectiveness of that machine to one part. You take the watch apart and it ceases to run. When men take God's plan of conversion apart, it ceases to be effective. James says, "Faith without works is dead." We recognize that it is faith in the greatness and goodness of God that leads a man to repent and turn aside from sin. It is the same faith that moves man to proudly proclaim that belief and willingly confess the name of Jesus Christ by being buried in the watery grave of baptism for the remission of their sins. Yes, that is what I said, baptism is part of the confession of our faith, and confession is part of repentance and all of these parts are of our saving faith. Someone has said, "Actions speak louder than words," and though there may be in our hearts a feeling that Christ is the Son of God, and though we have expressed with our lips that faith, unless we confess in deed the fact that Christ is the Son of God, we have failed to obey God's answer to our question, "What must I do to be saved?". Romans the 6th chapter, 1st through the 6th verses, unfolds to us the marvelous facts of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ that we confess in baptism: "Know ye not, that as many of us are baptized into Christ were baptized into death: That like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we were planted

together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."

We will have more to say about baptism next Lord's Day, but I believe that there are men and women in the audience today who know God's will and who will have the courage to obey Him today. Won't you now at this time resolve that you truly believe in Christ and that you will repent of every sin, and that today you will confess before your fellowmen, both by word and deed that blessed faith? You can proclaim to others, by walking down into the water to be buried with your Lord in baptism for the remission of your sins, that you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Remember, the confession of our faith is the obedience of the commands of Christ. Christ said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." Therefore, the only way that we can confess our faith and our love for Him is by doing His will. Softly and tenderly, Jesus, the Saviour of mankind, is calling for you today!

HERALD OF TRUTH
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